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From Forest Nursery Notes, Winter 2012

32. © Early field performance of *Acacia koa* seedlings grown under subirrigation and overhead irrigation. Davis, A. S., Pinto, J. R., and Jacobs, D. F. Native Plants Journal 12(2):94-99. 2011.



Figure 1. Overhead irrigation of koa and other species at the Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife Kamuela (Waimea) State Tree Nursery.

Early field performance of *Acacia koa* seedlings grown under subirrigation and overhead irrigation

Anthony S Davis, Jeremiah R Pinto, and Douglass F Jacobs

ABSTRACT

Koa (*Acacia koa* A. Gray [Fabaceae]) seedlings were grown with subirrigation and overhead irrigation systems in an effort to characterize post-nursery field performance. One year following outplanting, we found no differences in seedling height or survival, but root-collar diameter was significantly larger for subirrigated seedlings. This indicates that koa seedlings, with equal or better morphological quality compared with overhead irrigated seedlings, can be effectively produced using subirrigation systems, thus allowing for potential reductions in water use and wastewater during nursery culture.

Davis AS, Pinto JR, Jacobs DF. 2011. Early field performance of *Acacia koa* seedlings grown under subirrigation and overhead irrigation. *Native Plants Journal* 12(2):94–99.

KEY WORDS

Hawai'i, seedling quality, water management, Fabaceae

NOMENCLATURE

USDA NRCS (2011)

Photos by Anthony S Davis